

"Fr. Chuck Durante" <Fr.Chuck@saintteresaof-avila.org> on 01/02/2008 12:03:07 PM

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Subject: Yucca Mountain

LSN: Relevant - Not Privileged

User Filed as: Excl/AdminMgmt-14-4/QA:N/A

## To the Department:

I am writing to oppose the placement of a national nuclear waste dump at Yucca Mountain.

I am a native of Nevada and have lived here all of my life except during time away for school. I have lived both in northern Nevada and southern Nevada. I am an attorney and Roman Catholic priest, currently pastor at St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Community in Carson City.

I'm sure you have heard the many arguments opposed to this placement. In addition to others, some of those arguments are: the danger it poses to neighboring towns and populations; the great risk of transporting the waste receptacles across the United States, whether by rail or by truck; the fact that the site sits over an area of over ten fault lines and the fact that this land lies completely within Native American lands as governed by the treaty of Congress in 1863. believe that any of these arguments, standing alone, would be sufficient to halt this waste placement and cause any rational and caring society to question whether the entire nuclear energy process as viable. For it is surely true that no

place is safe for this storage or transportation.

It appears to me that our nation is, once again, continuing a pattern of dominating those with the "smallest" voices by considering placement of this waste within Native American lands (which are sacred to the people) and within a state with relatively little "clout" on the political scene. The pattern is practiced with our waste on a broad scale as it is shipped to poor countries willing take it for a "price." Those who are benefitting from nuclear power sources should be responsible for taking care of its waste within their own areas. Once again, if it is too dangerous to keep closer to its place of production, then why do we keep producing it?

I thank you for taking the time to read this missive and beg your every consideration and those of all in places of power on this issue not to transport to or place any nuclear waste on Yucca Mountain. The risks are simply too great and the respect too little.

Sincerely yours,
Fr. Charles T. Durante
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